

Operations Division

Walla Walla District Corps of Engineers 201 North Third Avenue Walla Walla, Washington 99362-1876

Walla Walla District

March 23, 2007

Navigation Lock outage at Little Goose Dam extended for additional gate repair

The upstream gate at the Little Goose Dam navigation lock located at Snake River mile 70.3 near Starbuck, Wash., was damaged March 21, causing an unscheduled lock closure.

The gate sustained damage during a refilling operation as preparations were underway to return the lock to service. The Corps is conducting an investigation into the cause of the incident.

During the next six days, work will be done to stabilize the gate and place it in a down position. When this is completed, the floating bulkhead will be used to provide interim lockage ability until permanent repairs can be made. Floating bulkhead lockage is planned to begin March 29. At that time, lockages will be available for commercial vessels only during night-time hours. This schedule for lockage will continue until all repairs to the gate are completed. Hours of lockage are to be determined – inland shippers, cruise lines and ports will be notified of that schedule as soon as possible.

All recreational craft lockage is cancelled until the lock returns to full service.

There will be at least two other lock closures (no bulkhead lockage) in April during the repair process, with times and dates to be determined. Little Goose lock is expected to return to full service on or about May 1. Updates will be provided as repair work progresses.

All other Walla Walla District locks have returned to service.

Your cooperation in this matter is much appreciated. For additional information, please call Ann Glassley, at (509) 527-7115 or Jim Bluhm (509) 527-7114.

Public Notices and other navigation lock information are available on the Internet at: http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/html/offices/op/t/navdata/default.html.